

Serial No. 10/023,177

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the captioned application:

**Listing of Claims:**

Claim 1. (cancelled)

Claim 2. (cancelled)

Claim ~~3~~<sup>2</sup> (amended) The composition of claim ~~25~~<sup>1</sup> wherein the comestible is selected from the group consisting of margarine, spreads, dressings, and oils.

Claim ~~4~~<sup>3</sup> (amended) The composition of claim ~~25~~<sup>1</sup> wherein the comestible is aqueous based.

Claim ~~5~~<sup>1</sup> (amended) A composition comprising

an alcohol having an average length of from about C<sub>20</sub>-C<sub>26</sub> in a amount sufficient to reduce cholesterol in a vertebrae;

said alcohol encapsulated in a food grade acceptable material selected from the group consisting of coating polymers, waxes and plasticizers, wherein the weight ratio of alcohol to the food grade acceptable material is from about 1:4 to about 10:1 and the encapsulated alcohol has a diameter of less than about 200 microns, wherein the composition is admixed in a comestible.

*cancel* Claim ~~6~~<sup>4</sup> (original) The composition of claim ~~3~~<sup>4</sup> wherein the food grade material is a cellulosic.

Claim ~~7~~<sup>4</sup> (amended) The composition of claim ~~25~~<sup>1</sup> which additionally contains a second cholesterol reducing agent in an amount sufficient to reduce the cholesterol level in a human being.

Claim ~~8~~<sup>5</sup> (original) The composition of claim ~~7~~<sup>4</sup> wherein the second cholesterol reducing agent is selected from the group consisting of sterols, stanols, sterol esters, stanol esters and oryzanol

Claims 9-12 (cancelled)

Claim ~~13~~<sup>6</sup> (previously amended) A method for reducing cholesterol in a vertebrate comprising administering an effective amount of the composition of claim ~~5~~<sup>1</sup>.